

Remarks

In the present Action, claims 1-35 were pending. In accordance with the Examiner's requirements stated therein: claims 1-16 and 18-34 have been amended herein; claim 17 has been canceled herein; and claim 35 was previously amended.

Applicants note that the Examiner's requirements were followed, and that amendments were also made to (i) claims 1, 15, and 16 to correct typographical errors and (ii) claims 30-34 to replace phrasing of "consists" with phrasing of -- comprising --.

In light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of this reply and reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-16 and 18-35 under *Ex parte Quayle*.

Allowable Subject Matter.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's decision that claims 1-16 and 18-35 as pending herein are patentable over the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that claims 1-16 and 18-35 are in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned counsel to discuss this matter so that allowance of claims 1-16 and 18-35 may be expeditiously reached and that a Notice of Allowance thereon may be entered without delay.

Applicants: Emmanuel Delorme, et al.
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Respectfully submitted,
Emmanuel Delorme, et al.

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W.R. Roloff

Walter K. (Kevin) Roloff, Reg. No. 36,907
U.S. Patent Counsel
Coloplast Corp., Coloplast A/S
Customer No. 69289
Telephone: (612) 302-4974